

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-14 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 AEC-01 SCI-03 SCEM-01 PM-03 DODE-00

PRS-01 L-02 ACDA-10 OMB-01 GAC-01 RSR-01 /072 W

----- 060443

R 130910 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3772

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 4320

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, IN

SUBJ: SITUATION AEC REP BOMBAY UNDER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN DAE AND USAEC

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM BOMBAY 12 APRIL  
'73 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE

BOMBAY 0780

LIMDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM CONSUL GENERAL

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN IN

SUBJ: SITUATION AEC REP BOMBAY UNDER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN DAE AND USAEC

REF: BOMBAY 0705

1. SUMMARY: BELIEVE PROBLEM ENCOUNTERED BY AEC REP ON WAY  
RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

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2. I HAD GOOD PRIVATE TALK WITH AEC CHAIRMAN SETHNA YESTERDAY APRIL 11 ON SUBJECT AEC REP DR PINAJIAN OF OAK RIDGE WHO CAME TO BOMBAY IN NOVEMBER 1972 ON ONE- YEAR ASSIGNMENT UNDER TERMS OF A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM IN THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH PURITY RADIONUCLIDES ( RADIOISOTOPES) BETWEEN US AND INDIAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSIONS WHICH ENTERED INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 21,1972 AND EXTENDS OVER FIVE YEAR PERIOD.

3. I TOLD SETHNA THAT I HAD REVIEWED WITH YOU PROGRESS REGISTERED TO DATE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT ON BASIS PINAJIAN'S EXPERIENCE AS GATHERED BY ME IN TALKS WITH HIM. I SAID THAT YOU HAD ASKED THAT I REVIEW THIS ENTIRE MATTER WITH HIM ( SETHNA)

4. I INDICATED FOLLOWING SETHNA: REGRETTED THAT INDIAN AEC HAD NOT SEEN FIT THUS FAR TO AVAIL ITSELF OF PINAJIAN'S PRESENCE AND CONTRIBUTION HE IS POSITION MAKE IN FIELD OF HIS RECOGNIZED COMPETENCE ( OF WHICH SETHNA WELL AWARE) WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE PARA 4 AGREEMENT WHICH ENVISAGES THAT PINAJIAN WILL WORK WITH INDIAN SPECIALISTS TO DEVELOP A SPECIFIC PROGRAM IN FIELD OF PREPARATION OF HIGH PURITY RADIONUCLIDES AND PARTICIPATE IN ITS FULFILLMENT. RECALLED THAT WHEN I ACCOMPANIED PINAJIAN ON HIS INITIAL CALL ON HIM ( SETHNA) LAST NOVEMBER HE HAD SUGGESTED THAT PINAJIAN GO TO WORK AT BHABHA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE( BARC)) AT TROMBAY IMMEDIATELY ( THIS WHERE RADIOISOTOPES RESEARCH IS CARRIED ON). ALTHOUGH PINAJIAN VISITED BARC THEREAFTER AND WELL KNOWN TO IYA, HEAD ISOTOPES DIVISION THERE, HIS REPEATED ATTEMPTS CALL UPON DIRECTOR, DR RAMANNA WERE UNSUCCESSFUL UNTIL HE ( SETHNA) INTERVENED PERSONALLY AND REQUESTED RAMANNA TO RECEIVE HIM. PINAJIAN FINALLY GOT TO SEE RAMANNA IN LATE FEBRUARY. RAMANNA TOLD PINAJIAN AT THAT TIME IT WOULD BE " IMPRACTICAL" FOR HIM TO WORK WITH ISOTOPES DIVISION BARC SINCE THIS WOULD " REQUIRE PERMISSION FROM THE CENTRE" HE SUGGESTED THAT PINAJIAN SHOULD REALLY WORK AT TATA INSTITUTE FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH( TIFR) PINAJIAN HOWEVER HAS REPEATEDLY TRIED CALL UPON DIRECTOR TIFR, PROFESSOR MENON SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN BOMBAY WITHOUT SUCCESS. MOREOVER PROF THOSAR ATO TIFR ADDRESSED REQUEST TO MENON LAST NOVEMBER THAT HE ( THOSAR) BE GIVEN PERMISSION TO INITIATE A PROGRAM OF INVESTIGATION WITH PINAJIAN IN CERTAIN AREAS OF INTERNAL CONVERSION SPECTROSCOPY. ACCORDING PINAJIAN THOSAR HAS FOLLOWED UP THIS REQUEST BUT HAS YET TO RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM MENON. CONCLUDED HIS PHASE SAYING CONFIDENTIAL

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PINAJIAN NOW HALFWAY THROUGH ASSIGNMENT AND RESULTS MAY PLACE PROGRAM IN QUESTION IN MIND USAEC AS WELL AS RAISE QUESTION ABOUT OTHER COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS SUCH AS ONE CURRENTLY SUGGESTED IN FIELD THORIUM UTILIZATION.

5. SETHNA CLEARLY UPSET AND DISTRESSED. EXPRESSED REGRET PINAJIAN HAD NOT COME TO HIM EARLIER. I NOTED PINAJIAN HAD BEEN TRYING REPEATEDLY SEE HIM FOR MOANY WEEKS TO WHICH SETHNA FELL BACK ON POINT HE OF COURSE CONSTANTLY IN MOTION ETC ( WHICH I ACKNOWLEDGED) AND THAT PINAJIAN SHOULD HAVE TAKEN UP OVER PHONE. I ONLY COMMENTED THAT THESE WERE NOTHKIND OF THINGS WE LIKE TALK ABOUT ON TELEPHONES. SAID I HAD AVOIDED COMING IN OFFICIAL CAPACITY EARLIER TO RAISE SINCE I UNDER IMPRESSION OUR AEC WERE NOT DISPOTED MAKE OR TAKE ISSUE OVER THIS AND THAT IF INDIAN AEC DID NOT WISH AVAIL ITSELF OF PINAJIAN THAT OF COURSE UP TO IT. MOREOVER I DID NOT WISH INJEST STATE DEPT INTO SITUATION UNTIL I HAD DISCUSSED WITH AMBASSADOR AND HAD HIS AUTHORITY DO SO. I STRESSED AS WELL DELICACY PINAJIAN POSOTION AND THAT HE DID NOT WISH FORCE HIMSELF INTO SUTIATION WHERE HE NOT WANTED OR THAT SOME MAKE- DO PROJECT BE DEVELOPED IN EFFORT SATISFY AGREEMENT.

6. SETHNA WHO OBVIOUSLY UNHAPPY IMMEDIATELY GOT MENON ON PHONE AND WANTED KNOW ABOUT STATUS THOSAR PROPOSAL. SETHNA THEREAFTER TOLD ME MENON SAID HE UNAWARE OF PROPOSAL BUT WOULD LOOK INTO IT. SETHNA UNABLE GET RAMANNA ON PHONE BUT SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THAT HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US.

7. SETHNA HAD JUST TELEPHONED PINAJIAN THIS MONRING TO SAY EVERYTHING HAS NOT BEEN SETTLED AND THAT HE IS WITH RAMANNA AT BARC AND WILL DISCUSS PINAJIANS WORK THERE AND THATHHE PINAJIAN IS TO CALL HIM SETHNA TOMORROW TO OBO( \$35-8) . SETHNA ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO PROF MENON AND THAT EVERYTHING IS SET AT TIFR AND THAT HE PINAJIAN SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THOSAR PERSONALLY.

8. COMMENT: BELIEVE SETHNA GENUINELY DISTRESSED AND EMBARRASED BY WHOLE AFFAIR AND IN OUR OPINION WILL ENDEAVOR TO DO EVERYTHING HE CAN TO CARR OUT TERMS AGREEMENT. WHOLE BUSINESS RAISES QUESTPON OUR MIND AS TO EXTENT TO WHIHC SETHNA REALLY CONTRLLS HID DIRECTOR AT BARC AND WE SHALL BE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 13 APR 1973  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** TGEN, IN  
**To:** CALCUTTA  
MADRAS  
NEA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
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